

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 03023 271422Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15

STR-04 TRSE-00 FEA-01 /092 W  
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R 271228Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 537

INFO USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 3023

USDOC FOR BEWT/DOWNEY AND BEWT/USSR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEWT, ENRG, ETRD, US, WG, FR, US

SUBJECT: SOVIET MINISTER OF GAS INDUSTRY NEGATIVE ON "NORTH STAR"  
PROJECT

REF: MOSCOW 1771

1. FRG EMBOFF ADVISED COMMERCIAL ATTACHE FEBRUARY 26 THAT DURING RECENT MEETING WITH SOVIET MINISTER OF GAS INDUSTRY S.A. ORUDZHEV, HE HAD BEEN STRUCK BY ORUDZHEV'S VERY NEGATIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD PROPOSED "NORTH STAR" NATURAL GAS PROJECT. ACCORDING TO FRG EMBOFF, ORUDZHEV CLAIMED THAT "NORTH STAR" WAS VERY COSTLY AND THAT USSR COULD BETTER USE NATURAL GAS FROM URENGOY FIELD FOR ITS INTERNAL REQUIREMENTS. ORUDZHEV ADMITTED, HOWEVER, THAT FINAL DECISION ON "NORTH STAR" WOULD BE MADE SEVERAL SOVIET MINISTRIES, INCLUDING HIS OWN, AND THAT INTERESTS OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE MIGHT PREVAIL.

2. COMMENT: FRG EMBOFF SAID HE WAS INCLINED TO INTERPRET ORUDZHEV'S  
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 03023 271422Z

COMMENTS ON "NORTH STAR" AS REFLECTION OF A MORE NATIONALISTIC SOVIET

APPROACH TOWARD THE UTILIZATION OF NON-RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCES  
SUCH AS NATURAL GAS. IN VIEW EXTREMELY FAVORABLE (FROM SOVIET  
POINT OF VIEW) ESTIMATES MADE BY BROWN AND ROOT OF POTENTIAL  
FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS FROM THIS PROJECT (SEE REFTTEL),  
ORUDZHEV AND ANY OTHER SOVIET OFFICIALS SHARING HIS VIEWS WILL BE  
HARD PRESSED TO JUSTIFY THEIR OPPOSITION TO "NORTH STAR."

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NATURAL GAS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, GAS PIPELINES, GAS PRODUCTION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976MOSCOW03023  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760075-0459  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 MOSCOW 1771  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <11 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOVIET MINISTER OF GAS INDUSTRY NEGATIVE ON "NORTH STAR" PROJECT  
**TAGS:** EEW, ENRG, ETRD, GE, FR, US, NORTH STAR PROJECT, BROWN & ROOT INC, (ORUDZHEV, SABIT ATAVEICH)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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